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Letter dated 10 April 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Timor-Leste to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit a letter addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão, President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, on the post-UNOTIL United Nations presence in Timor-Leste (see annex). I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sofia **Borges**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 10 April 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Timor-Leste to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Letter dated 2 April 2006 from the President of Timor-Leste to the Secretary-General

I wish to take this opportunity to convey again my renewed respects to you for guiding the United Nations in various issues of global concern to the international community. I also wish to extend my appreciation again of the opportunity that I had to meet with you and also to address the Security Council in January 2006 in New York.

Today, I am following up on the letters written by H.E. Prime Minister Mari Alkatiri on 17 January 2006, and H.E. Foreign Minister José Ramos-Horta on 2 March 2006 with regard to our request that the United Nations establish in Timor-Leste a "special political office" to assist us in carrying out free and fair elections in 2007. It is my understanding that the Security Council has requested you to make a proposal on the role, structure and composition of the new United Nations presence upon completion of the United Nations Office in Timor-Leste mandate in May 2006.

As stated by Prime Minister Alkatiri in his letter of 17 January 2006, we consider essential for the new United Nations presence to contain all four components, namely an electoral assistance unit, police training advisers, military liaison officers and civilian advisers in critical areas that require continued assistance. With regard to civilian advisers, the Government has secured the agreement of the World Bank for the finance sector and bilateral donors for some of the posts in the judiciary. However, there is a need to secure the service of international advisers to strengthen the prosecution services, as well as to build the organizational foundation and the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Defence and the Forca de Defesa de Timor-Leste in light of recent developments. Therefore, we would appreciate it very much if you could request the Security Council to authorize the deployment of 8 to 10 civilian advisers for institutional capacity-building in the areas of defence and public prosecution. Also we would welcome the deployment of human rights officers to monitor and report on the human rights situation during the period leading to the presidential and parliamentary elections to be held in 2007.

We consider that all these components should be under a senior command and that all the United Nations agencies should be integrated into this "special political office". A unified presence of all United Nations organizations under the unified command of a senior United Nations representative has proved most conducive in coordinating activities carried out by the United Nations agencies.

(*Signed*) Kay Rala Xanana **Gusmão**
President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste